

## Weekly Weather Crop Report



In cooperation with

Mississippi Department of  
Agriculture and Commerce

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Week Ending May 22, 2005

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According to the Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service, there were 6.0 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending May 22, 2005**. Crops across the state are in much need of rain. In some areas, planting and replanting have been delayed due to the lack of soil moisture. Some growers have begun irrigating their crops to provide much needed moisture. Soil moisture was rated 9 percent very short, 47 percent short, 42 percent adequate, and, 2 percent surplus.

Progress In Percentages						Conditions in Percentages				
Item	Event	This Week	Last Week	2004	5-Yr Avg	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	Emerged	99	98	99	99	0	4	23	63	10
Cotton	Planted	94	87	93	91	2	6	26	60	6
	Emerged	81	63	85	80					
Rice	Planted	99	98	98	94	0	1	15	77	7
	Emerged	95	86	94	86					
Sorghum	Planted	100	98	98	94	0	0	14	82	4
	Emerged	98	90	96	90					
Soybeans	Planted	95	91	95	85	1	3	18	71	7
	Emerged	89	80	90	74					
Wheat	Heading	100	99	100	100	2	3	30	61	4
	Mature	28	9	37	31					
Hay (Cool Season) (Warm Season)	Harvested	72	62	67	78	0	16	26	54	4
		12	6	10	9					
Sweetpotatoes	Planted	2	--	6	11	--	--	--	--	--
Watermelons	Planted	99	99	87	93	0	0	33	61	6
Blueberries						0	0	7	79	14
Cattle						1	4	32	53	10
Pasture						2	7	39	43	9

### County Agent Comments

"Growers need rain. Cotton still does not look good and none of the other crops are growing off well."

— Don Respess, Bolivar

"We cannot buy a rain. There are a number of acres of cotton and soybeans that were planted, but have not come up because of lack of moisture. There is insufficient moisture to finish planting or for replanting."

— Mack Young, Quitman

"Rainfall is needed for seed germination and growth of emerged crops. Planting continued where seed could be placed in moisture without planting too deep for emergence. Thrips are a problem on slow growing cotton seedlings."

— Jay Phelps, Pontotoc

“Some cotton and soybeans were replanted this week. Most all of those producers have now finished their planting activities. Many cotton producers were busy applying sidedress nitrogen. A few producers started their irrigation systems on corn and soybeans.”

— Jerry Singleton, Leflore

“Corn is in rapid growth and needs moisture. Crawfish have destroyed many cotton and soybean stands and forced producers to replant many fields.”

— Dr. Dennis B. Reginelli, Noxubee

“The right kind of rain would really help but crops overall look pretty good. About 30% of soybeans had to be replanted and about 20% of the cotton in the county had to be replanted. All crops planted since the ground warmed up have emerged and seem to be growing with good vigor.”

— Jimbo Burkhalter, Tallahatchie

“We are in need for some rain all over the county and rain is predicted in the forecast. Some producers are waiting to complete planting soybeans.”

— Melvin Oatis, Benton

“Replanted cotton is up and looking good. However, we have a few fields replanted with treated seed that are not holding the thrips. Spotted wilt is showing up in some gardens.”

— Stephen R. Winters, Grenada

“Producers have halted planting until we receive rain. Most areas are in need of a slow rain. Emerged crops look good. Homeowners have been watering their lawns to help late bermuda.”

— Tim Needham, Tippah

“Dry weather has created an irrigation demand on corn and some soybeans. Subsoil moisture is adequate at this time, but lack of rainfall for several weeks could put producers in a deficit moisture situation for the summer.”

— Tommy Baird, Sunflower

“Growers have made significant progress with completing the planting of all major crops and only a few fields remain too wet. These will likely be planted next week. Some areas are becoming dry, while others are wet. A general rain will be needed by the end of next week.”

— Ernest Flint, Attala

“Dry and warmer weather is allowing producers to make headway on completing crop planting. However, soil moisture is becoming a concern in conventionally tilled plantings. Forage crops are growing well. Ryegrass is heading and cool season hay harvest is in full swing.”

— Glen E. Williams, Oktibbeha

“We are in need of some rain. We have halted some of our planting activities because of the dry conditions. Rain is forecast for Friday evening, and at this point, the rain will be a welcome sight. We are finding some soybean fields that have some degree of Bean Leaf Beetle damage. These fields need to be watched closely. The cotton plants at this time are looking pretty good. As stated earlier, all the planted crops could use a good rain. The wheat harvest is underway, but the rain might slow it down. We will see how the weather plays out this weekend.”

— Bill Maily, Hinds

“Conditions are very dry. Most growers have stopped planting and are waiting for rainfall. Crops are in good condition now, but need a rain. Thrips continue to be a problem in peanuts in some areas.”

— Mike Howell, Covington

“If dry conditions continue, there will begin to be some yield reductions at the very least.”

— Mark Gillie, Greene

“We are drying out quickly. All crops are in need of rain. Ryegrass hay harvest is complete. Summer pasture is short due to dry conditions.”

— Chuck Grantham, Jones

“At this point producers are in desperate need of rain. The lack of rainfall was beneficial in the cutting and baling of cool-season hay, but is causing problems with other crops that need moisture.”

— Florieda K. Mason, Perry

“Corn, watermelons, and blueberries are in excellent condition. Ninety percent of the cool-season hay has been harvested. Early planted watermelons are setting fruit and mid-to-late-planted melons are setting runners and blooms. Blueberry growers are ready and waiting to go to the field to harvest an abundant crop. Ripening of the blueberry crop has been delayed by cooler nighttime temperatures and growers are getting nervous that prices will drop with a much further delay.”

— Allen McReynolds, Wayne

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Additional comments appear on the Internet at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/ms/cwyears.htm>

This publication is part of a series that first began in 1872 and has been continuously published since. In Mississippi, this report is a result of the cooperative efforts of:

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# Weather Summary from May 16, 2005 to May 22, 2005 for Mississippi

District/Station	Air Temperature					Precipitation				4 Inch Soil Temperature			Avg Pan Evap
	Max	Min	Avg	Norm	DFN	One Week	DFN	Rain Days	Four Weeks	Max	Min	Avg	
1. Upper Delta													
Charleston				71		0.55	-0.71	1	1.93				
Cleveland	93	49	71	72	-1	0.00	-1.12	0	2.41				
Tunica				72		0.00	-1.28	0	2.50				
Extreme/Average	93	49	71	72	-1	0.18	-1.05	0	2.28				
2. North-Central													
Hickory Flat	87	41	65	69	-4	0.00	-1.26	0	1.58				
Calhoun City	88	44	67	70	-3	0.00	-1.20	0	1.51				
Independence	89	42	67	69	-2	0.00	-1.26	0	1.77				
Oxford	91	43	70	69	+1	0.00	-1.30	0	0.88				
Extreme/Average	91	41	67	70	-3	0.00	-1.26	0	1.44				
3. Northeast													
Booneville	87	49	69	69	0	0.00	-1.45	0	1.85				
Iuka	85	38	63	66	-3	0.08	-1.34	1	2.92				
Ripley	88	42	66	69	-3	0.00	-1.21	0	1.49				
Tupelo	90	49	69			0.00		0	1.91				
Verona	89	48	70	71	-1	0.06	-0.99	1	1.96				
Extreme/Average	90	38	68	70	-2	0.03	-1.30	0	2.03				
4. Lower Delta													
Moorhead	94	53	72	73	-1	0.05	-1.13	1	2.15				
Rolling Fork	93	52	75	73	+2	0.00	-1.19	0	2.04				
Stoneville	94	52	73	73	0	0.00	-1.18	0	1.54				
Yazoo City	88	50	69	73	-4	0.10	-1.15	1	1.79				
Extreme/Average	94	50	73	73	0	0.04	-1.22	1	1.88				
5. Central													
Canton	90	49	70	73	-3	0.38	-0.91	1	5.99				
Carthage	91	50	71	71	0	0.42	-0.79	1	2.89				
Lexington	89	47	69	71	-2	0.08	-1.10	1	3.63				
Eupora	88	46	68	70	-2	0.00	-1.18	0	2.68				
Extreme/Average	91	46	70	71	-1	0.22	-0.94	1	3.80				
6. East-Central													
Aberdeen	91	48	70	70	0	0.00	-1.23	0	2.16				
Houston				69		0.10	-1.16	1	2.94				
Louisville	87	51	70	70	0		-1.15	0					
State University	90	46	70	71	-1	0.03	-1.05	1	2.06				
Extreme/Average	91	46	70	71	-1	0.04	-1.10	1	2.39				
7. Southwest													
Crystal Springs	90	52	72	73	-1	1.45	+0.40	1	3.30				
Natchez	88	51	72	74	-2	0.78	-0.44	1	2.31				
Oakley	89	48	69	72	-3	0.80	-0.25	1	3.74				
Vicksburg	92	49	73			0.13		1	2.59				
Extreme/Average	92	48	71	73	-2	0.79	-0.41	1	2.99				
8. South-Central													
Collins				72		0.66	-0.66	1	2.74				
Columbia	90	55	75	74	+1	0.00	-1.26	0	2.26				
Tylertown	89	55	74	73	+1	0.00	-1.28	0	1.83				
Extreme/Average	90	55	74	73	+1	0.00	-1.26	0	2.05				
9. Southeast													
Beaumont	92	55	75			0.09		1	2.37				
Hattiesburg	90	56	74	74	0	0.14	-1.05	1	2.26				
Laurel	90	55	74	72	+2	0.16	-1.03	1	2.23				
Newton	90	47	69	71	-2	0.17	-0.72	1	2.16				
Extreme/Average	92	47	73	73	0	0.14	-0.96	1	2.29				
10. Coastal													
Gulfport	87	60	74	76	-2	0.00	-1.31	0	2.86				
Poplarville	89	57	74	74	0	0.00	-1.26	0	6.92				
Waveland	89	62	74	75	-1	0.00	-1.19	0	3.19				
Extreme/Average	89	57	74	75	-1	0.00	-1.33	0	3.03				
State	94	38	71	72	-1	0.17	-1.04	1	2.48				

DFN = Departure from Normal.